Misusing Statistics

Lecturer: John Guttag



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"The data on insanity revealed in this census is unimpeachable. From it our nation must conclude that the abolition of slavery would be to the African a

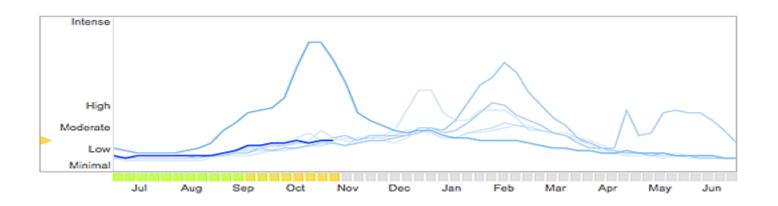
curse."

- John C. Calhoun

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"there were so many errors they balanced one another, and led to the same conclusion as if they were all correct."

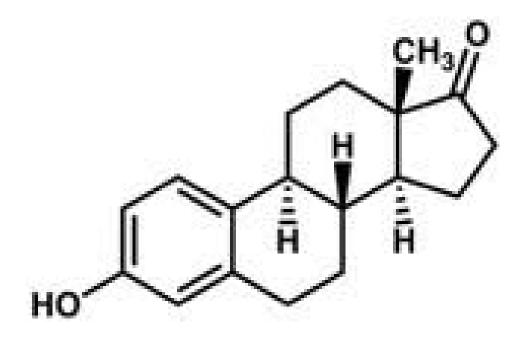
"the measurement errors are unbiased and independent of each of other, and therefore almost identically distributed on either side of the mean."



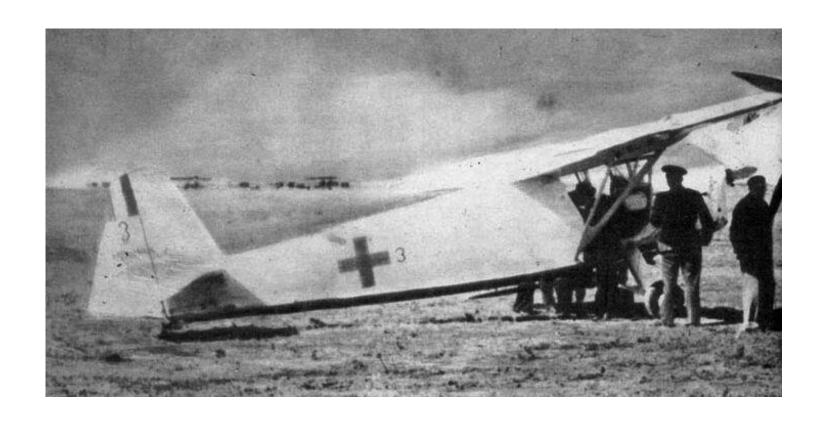
Cases of flu in NYS in recent years.

Does the opening of schools contribute to the spread of flu?

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